









that the German Government may be to be on a similar footing as Great Britain will be at Peking by having some high commission with the rank of minister plenipotentiary there. It certainly could have found a more suitable person for the purpose than the gentleman above mentioned, as his diplomatic acquirements are the highest, and he is personally acquainted with his friends to be on the par with the best in Europe in political matters, and can be relied on to carry out the policy of the Chinese Imperial Government, and especially with the Viceroy.

If Great Britain and Germany are represented in China by persons who so well learned diplomacy in the Marine Customs Service, other nations will not be slow to follow suit. I have seen from the same school, and France, Italy, and the United States may before long be Ministers in China after members of the Chinese Foreign Customs. Really, Samuel Johnson used to say, "it is dignified" what is likely to happen, not that he had seen any sailing ships.

P. 8.—The man who wanted to be me and there would be no difficulty the Commissioner's successor here, it is regarding who is to succeed Sir



